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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 MCT-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
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PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /085 R

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095841

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BQG, AKG

SUBJECT: LORENZ-DRENCKMANN TRIAL: SUGGESTION TO
WITHDRAW CHARGE OF COERCION OF FEDERAL AND LAND ORGANS

REF: A) USBERLIN 759; B) BONN 6104; C) BONN 6152

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH RECOMMENDATION OF MISSION
(REF A) AND EMBASSY (REF B) THAT ALLIES SHOULD
CAREFULLY AVOID INVOLVING THEMSELVES IN THE LEGAL
PROCESSES OF THE LORENZ-DRENCKMANN TRIAL AND THAT
WE SHOULD NOT ENCOURAGE OBERLE TO WITHDRAW THE
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COERCION CHARGES. WE ARE HAPPY TO NOTE (REF C)
THAT THE FRENCH AND BRITISH HAVE PULLED BACK FROM
THEIR FORWARD POSITIONS ON THIS QUESTION. IF THE
MISSIONS CONSIDER THAT WE STILL OWE OBERLE A
RESPONSE, WE BELIVE THAT THE REPLY PROPOSED IN
PARAGRAPH 12 OF REF A SHOULD BE USED. RATHER THAN
STATING THAT THE ALLIES HAVE NO OPINION (PARA 12 (B)),

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WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE AND MORE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT THE ALLIES DO NOT WISH TO INTRUDE ON HIS DELIBERATIONS.

2. AT THE SAME TIME WE BELIEVE THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE CHARGES COULD HAVE SOME POSITIVE BENEFITS FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW BY SHORTENING THE TRIAL AND POSSIBLY AVOIDING THE INVOLVEMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL FRG OFFICIALS DIRECTLY IN THE TRIAL. THEREFORE, IF OBERLE SHOULD BE INCLINED ON HIS OWN TO TAKE THIS COURSE OF ACTION, WE BELIEVE THE ALLIES SHOULD DO NOTHING TO DISCOURAGE HIM. CHRISTOPHER

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